

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 EB-08 OMB-01 /093 W  
-----060747 171505Z /46

R 171232Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2302  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17158

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, WB  
SUBJECT: SPANDAU LOCK

REFS: (A) BONN 16859; (B) USBER 2538;  
(C) BONN 16022; (D) USBER 2627

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE FRG HAS MADE A STRONG APPEAL TO THE ALLIES IN THE BONN GROUP TO ALLOW THE SENAT TO SIGN THE SPANDAU LOCK AGREEMENT WITHOUT MAKING THE PREVIOUSLY SUGGESTED ORAL STATEMENT. THE FRENCH, HOWEVER, REFUSED TO RETREAT FROM THEIR EARLIER POSITION, BUT DID AGREE TO REPORT THE FRG'S CONCERN TO PARIS. THE FRG WILL USE THE OCCASION OF THE REGULAR FRG/FRENCH BILATERAL CONSULTATION, TAKING PLACE IN BONN ON OCTOBER 17, TO SEEK TO BRING THE FRENCH AROUND. END SUMMARY.

1. FRG REP (VON BRAUNMUEHL), JUST RETURNED FROM HIS TRIP TO BERLIN (REF A), TRANSMITTED THE SENAT'S  
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CONCERNS IN A STRONG APPEAL TO THE BONN GROUP ON OCTOBER 12. HIS ARGUMENTS DID NOT DIFFER SUBSTANTIALLY FROM THOSE USED BY THE US AND UK REPS IN THE TRIPARTITE MEETING OF ALLIED BONN GROUP REPS ON OCTOBER 4 AND 7, BUT HE CONVEYED THE FRG AND SENAT WILLINGNESS TO ALLEVIATE FRENCH CONCERNS IN A NUMBER OF WAYS. HE SUGGESTED POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES WERE A PUBLIC STATEMENT

BY THE SENAT SUBSEQUENT TO (BUT NOT IN CONNECTION WITH)  
THE SIGNING CEREMONY, A JOINT SENAT-ALLIED STATEMENT,  
OR AN ALLIED BK/O OR A BK/L.

2. GUENTHER MEICHSNER OF THE BERLIN REPRESENTATION IN  
BONN ARGUED THAT THE PROPOSED SENAT/GDR AGREEMENT ON THE  
SPANDAU LOCK WAS THE BEST THE SENAT COULD OBTAIN AND IT  
WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE TO HAVE IT FOUNDER ON FRENCH  
INSISTENCE ON THE PROPOSED STATEMENT. THE AGREEMENT  
COULD HAVE BEEN SIGNED IN 1975, HE SAID, BUT THE GDR  
TRIED FOR TWO YEARS TO HAVE IT CAST IN A FORM WHICH  
WOULD PORTRAY WEST BERLIN AS AN INDEPENDENT ENTITY.  
THE SENAT HAD HELD FIRM; IT WAS THE GDR WHICH HAD  
"CRAWLED TO THE CROSS. TO ARGUE NOW THAT A DECISION NOT  
TO MAKE A SENAT STATEMENT WOULD APPEAR TO BE A "SIGN OF  
WEAKNESS" SHOWED A LACK OF PERSPECTIVE REGARDING THE  
NEGOTIATING HISTORY.

3. UK REP (EYERS) POINTED OUT THAT ONE ONLY HAD TO  
EXAMINE THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT TO SEE THAT IT DID NOT  
AFFECT THE LEGAL SITUATION IN BERLIN. THUS THE SENAT  
STATEMENT APPEARED SUPERFLUOUS, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF  
THE FAVORABLE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT ITSELF.

4. THE US REP REPEATED THE ARGUMENTS IN REF A.

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5. THE FRENCH REP (RICHARD) SAID HE WAS COMPELLED TO  
STAND BY HIS INSTRUCTIONS (REF A, PARA 3), BUT SOUGHT  
TO EXPLORE ALTERNATIVES WHICH MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE TO  
PARIS. HE AGREED TO REPORT TO PARIS THE ALLIED AND  
GERMAN ARGUMENTS FOR DROPPING THE STATEMENT, BUT HE  
EXPRESSED HIS DOUBT THAT PARIS WOULD BE MOVED.

6. RICHARD INFORMED US THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 13 THAT  
HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE QUAI BUT THAT THE  
POSITION THERE WAS UNCHANGED. THE QUAI'S  
POLITICAL DIRECTOR (DE LABOULAYE) IS LEADING A FRENCH  
DELEGATION FOR THE REGULAR FRG/FRENCH BILATERAL  
CONSULTATIONS AT THE DIRECTORIAL LEVEL IN BONN ON  
OCTOBER 17. VON BRAUNMUEHL INFORMS US  
THE FRG WILL USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK TO BRING THE  
FRENCH AROUND.

7. COMMENT: THE UK, NOT THE FRG, PUT THE ITEM ON THE  
AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION (VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID HE WOULD HAVE  
BUT FOR THE FACT THAT EYERS DID), WHICH PRESUMABLY  
REFLECTS THE UK CONCERN ABOUT FRENCH INTRANSIGENCE ON  
THIS POINT. END COMMENT.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENT DRAFT, LEGISLATIVE BILLS, BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE MATTERS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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